



**Sediment Management Strategic Plan
Task Force Meeting # 1
January 31, 2011 2:00-4:00 pm**



Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Headquarters
900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803
Conference Rooms A & B

Meeting Summary

Note: For reference purposes, the meeting agenda, Task Force invitation list, and Task Force Meeting # 1 list of attendees are attached. For a copy of the presentation please email Marcela Benavides at mbenavides@dpw.lacounty.gov.

Welcome

Gary Hildebrand, Division Head of the Watershed Management Division of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, welcomed and thanked the attendees. He indicated sediment management is necessary in order to provide for the flood protection and water conservation needs of the region. He explained that the goal of the Task Force is to find sediment management solutions that balance environmental, social, and economic impacts. Gary also introduced the Sediment Management Strategic Plan Project Team: Lani Alfonso, Dan Sharp, Marcela Benavides, and Laura Rockett.

Presentation

Dan Sharp gave a presentation that provided background information about the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. He also talked about the Sediment Management Strategic Plan, the purpose and structure of the Task Force, and potential sediment transport, sediment reuse, sediment placement, and other alternatives.

Alternatives Brainstorming Session

After the presentation, the attendees broke up into six (6) groups to brainstorm about additional alternatives. Below is a compiled list of the notes from the breakout groups.

Transportation Alternatives

- If the system is more natural there may not be any need for transportation
- Truck sediment, deal with dust issues, investigate hybrid/alternative fuel/more environmentally friendly trucks to subsidize cost and reduce environmental impacts
- Sluice, sluice during flooding, investigate alternative sluicing methods
- Slurry pipeline, other pipelines
- Rail, railroad-type tracks embedded into flood control channels with flat transport cars
- Conveyors, conveyors that generate power

Re-use Alternatives

- Beach replenishment, beach rehabilitation, restoration of coastal wetlands
- Use to fill/rehabilitate gravel pits
- Inert landfill cover, alternative daily cover at landfills

- Rip rap, channel armoring, gabions
- Agricultural industry – topsoil, land replenishment
- Landscaping industry – turf replacement, nurseries
- Landform grading
- Housing and development industry
- County's and other agencies' construction projects such as ports, schools, roads, and bridges as well as for filling smaller sites like the Gold Line
- Brownfield development (for cap)
- Mine for re-use, e.g., mine from behind Santa Fe Dam including stockpile
- Multi-use processing, grade and classify material
- Sell the material, have a sediment/soil broker, market the sediment, commercial reuse, commercial involvement
- Alternative uses, make glass or something with it
- Research alternative uses of sediment

Placement Alternatives

- Back to hills, back to mountains
- Offshore (explore environmental benefits), drilling mud
- Shoreline, beaches
- Build an island in the Harbor (like Japan)
- Inland desert (appropriate locations adjacent to railroad)
- Gravel pits, gravel pits in Irwindale, hillside mines
- Landfills (inert landfills), identify distance to landfills. Example: Puente Hills landfill closure → open space
- Restoration projects, restore coastal wetlands, restore SPS when filled (make more naturally landscaped – work with community/scientific community)
- Parks and Recreation use
- Transportation/grading
- “Send it to the moon” (or other places out of the County)

Other Alternatives

- Change/reconfigure/re-engineer the system, retrofit dams, deepen channels, structure upstream, gabions, regain capacity at reservoirs, improve facilities (bring up to size)
- Purchase land along the channels to make a more natural system, relocate residents in danger zone, mimic nature (bigger piles, better shape, native habitat)
- Clean out sediment before it gets too far into a debris basin or reservoir
- Conduct outreach/educate the public about alternatives
- Restore sediment placement sites after filled to make them seem more natural - work with community & scientific community
- Require use of sediment on all development projects requiring fill
- Prevention - erosion control, invasive removal so that natives can grow and prevent erosion
- Prepare downstream facilities for incoming sediment from sluicing operations – if sluicing a certain amount of sediment, remove that same amount of sediment from downstream facilities first
- Phase sediment removal
- Communication – language, modes, timing, feedback (Models of Communication: Newhall Land, Ventura Watershed Protection District, Rim of the Valley)

Other Thoughts

- All sides must be flexible
- There must be diversity and transparency in the process, transparency, results, timing/convenience
- The right people need to be involved (expertise), credibility, consult existing stakeholder groups
- Learn from the past
- Have to combine multiple ideas
- Approach should be interdisciplinary/collaborative - allow for flood protection, water conservation, and watershed health; consider biological and recreational components
- Incorporate multi-use components including passive and active recreation in sediment placement site planning and use
- Augustus F. Hawkins Natural Park built on organic and sediment landfill
- There should be internal collaboration
- Consider all feasible options, do not limit
- Cost, Consider cost issues, cost/benefit of water conservation/flood protection vs. sediment, long-term view of cost
- Determine the cost managing the sediment as it is currently done. Compare the cost of the alternatives with that cost.
- Credit system/other funding sources
- Replacement of downstream sediment for economic value
- Filling pits complicated by water at bottom of old pits
- Organic and silt problematic
- Timing – needs vs. availability
- In-house environmental review, independent oversight committee for EIRs
- Adhering to existing development rules, land-use policy
- Existing Flood Control District facilities
- Local solutions

Consideration, Constraints, and Challenges

Following the breakout session the Task Force discussed considerations, constraints, and challenges related to sediment management. The items discussed with the whole group are summarized below.

- The economic value of ecosystems, including stormwater interception, pollution filtration, carbon sequestration, recreation opportunities should be considered. Various groups have developed economic values for ecosystems. Consider using those numbers in the evaluation.
- The animals and plants that reside in the region's open space need to be considered.
- The actual people affected need to be represented better. Who is representing them? Homeowners associations do not always speak on everyone's behalf. Should consider more than the immediate neighborhood; need to consider the region. Are those who use downstream facilities being considered?
- The impact to the environment needs to be evaluated in a broader scope.
- The solutions need to be optimized. There is not going to be one solution to the problem; it is going to be a combination and optimization of many methods.
- Project goals and criteria need to be clear.
 - o How do you put a price on any one specific consideration?

- There is no one solution to the problem.
- The environment needs to be taken into consideration.
- There needs to be a transparent process. Is it possible to invite some groups to assist in the selection of the consultant to perform work for this project?
Response: The consultant has already been chosen from a list of as-needed consultants the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works has. The Consultant's work will be discussed openly with the Task Force and anything found to be unacceptable will be reconsidered. It is feasible to amend the consultant's scope, as necessary.
- Short-term projects are appearing to be a bigger deal through the presentation. If they are not currently being considered a high priority, they need to be. We need to consider the short-term projects highly now as they will be a big part of the long-term plan.
- The scope of work for the project needs to consider the long-term approach.
- Upstream effects need to be evaluated.
- An integrated approach needs to be taken.

Upcoming Clean-Out and Sediment Placement Site Projects

While the Strategic Plan is being developed, Public Works will continue to plan various needed sediment removal/placement projects. There will be a separate process to outreach to stakeholders as the plan for each specific project is developed. Task Force attendees were invited to sign-up to receive information about the following upcoming projects:

- Big Tujunga Reservoir clean-out
- Devil's Gate Reservoir clean-out
- Cogswell Reservoir clean-out
- Eaton Wash Dam clean-out
- La Tuna Sediment Placement Site
- Pacoima Reservoir clean-out
- Morris Reservoir clean-out

Any pertinent information from the work being done on the upcoming projects and the Sediment Management Strategic Plan will be shared between the groups.

Next Steps

The Task Force will reconvene in approximately 2 months.

In the meantime, Public Works will contract a consultant to complete a Sediment Management Study that will assist in the development of the Sediment Management Strategic Plan. While it is not feasible to provide the Scope of Work for the study at this time, as requested at the meeting, the scope will be provided to the Task Force as soon as possible.

The County will work with the Task Force and other stakeholders to obtain any relevant information that could be used in the development of the Strategic Plan. This includes the previously developed economic values for ecosystems mentioned during the meeting.

Contact Information

Please contact Dan Sharp or any other member of the Project Team if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions throughout the project.

- Lani Alfonso: lalfonso@dpw.lacounty.gov, (626) 458-7165
- Dan Sharp: dsharp@dpw.lacounty.gov, (626) 458-4345

- Marcela Benavides: mbenavides@dpw.lacounty.gov, (626) 458-4166
- Laura Rockett: lrockett@dpw.lacounty.gov, (626) 458-4363



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LA County Department of Public Works Headquarters Building
900 South Fremont Avenue. Alhambra, CA 91803

Goal

Manage sediment in order to provide for the flood protection and water conservation needs of the region while balancing environmental, social, and economic impacts.

Agenda

Welcome

Sediment Management Needs and Current Methods

Sediment Management Strategic Plan

- What are the challenges we are trying to address?
- What opportunities are there?

Task Force Purpose and Structure

- What is your role?

Potential Solutions

- Transport
- Reuse
- Placement
- Other

Considerations, Constraints, and Challenges

Next Steps

If you have any questions or concerns please contact:
Dan Sharp at (626) 458-4345 or dsharp@dpw.lacounty.gov

SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN TASK FORCE INVITATION LIST

Agency/Organization	Name	Title
Arroyo Seco Foundation	Tim Brick	Managing Director
California Coastal Commission	John (Jack) Ainsworth	Deputy Director
California Department of Fish and Game	Ed Pert	Regional Manager South Coast Region
California Department of Forestry	Mikel Martin	Southern Region Chief
California Department of Transportation - District 7	James McCarthy	Deputy District Director of Planning
California Native Plant Society San Gabriel Mountains Chapter	Gabi McLean	President
California Regional Water Quality Control Board - Los Angeles Region	Samuel Unger	Interim Executive Officer
City of Arcadia	Phil Wray	City Engineer
City of Azusa	Carl Hassel	City Engineer
City of Bradbury	Dominic Milano	City Engineer
City of Burbank	Sean Corrigan	Chief City Engineer
City of Claremont	Craig Bradshaw	City Engineer
City of Duarte	Craig Hensley	Director of Public Works
City of Glendale	Roubik Golian	City Engineer
City of Glendora	Jerry Burke	Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer
City of Irwindale	Kwok Tam	Director of Public Works/City Engineer
City of La Cañada Flintridge	Ying Kwan	City Engineer
City of La Verne	Dan Keeseey	Public Works Department Head
City of Los Angeles	Gary Lee Moore	City Engineer
City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation	Khalil M. Gharios	Division Manager
City of Monrovia	Jun Cervantes	City Engineer
City of Pasadena	Dan Rix	City Engineer
City of San Dimas	Krishna Patel	Director of Public Works
City of Santa Clarita	Robert Newman	Director of Public Work/ City Engineer
City of Sierra Madre	Bruce Inman	Director of Public Works
County of Los Angeles Fire Department	P. Michael Freeman	Fire Chief
County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors	Santos H. Kreimann	Director
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health	Jonathan E. Fielding	Director and Health Officer
County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning	Susan Tae	

Agency/Organization	Name	Title
Holliday Rock Company	John Holiday	President
Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council	Nancy L.C. Steele	Executive Director
Los Angeles Audubon	Travis Longcore	President
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	Thomas Erb	Director of Water Resources
Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster	Carol Thomas Williams	Executive Officer
Metropolitan Water District	John V. Foley	Chairman
Mountains Restoration Trust	Debbie Brushaber	Co-Executive Director
Pasadena Audubon	Laura Garrett	
Pasadena Audubon	Mickey Long	
Peck Road Gravel	Nick Bubalo	President
Port of Long Beach	Robert Kanter	Managing Director
Public	Lori Paul	
Raymond Basin Management Board	Anthony Zampello	Executive Director
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County	Stephen R. Maguin	Chief Engineer and General Manager
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Angeles District	Joseph T. Edminston	Executive Director
Sierra Club	Darrell Clark	Chairman
Sierra Club	George Watland	Conservation Program Coordinator
South Coast Air Quality Management District	Barry R. Wallerstien	Executive Officer
The Port of Los Angeles	Christopher Cannon	Director Environmental Management
The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy	Belinda Faustinos	Executive Officer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	R. Mark Toy	District Commander
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Ren Lohofener	Regional Director, Pacific Southwest
U.S. Forest Service	Marty Dumpis	Acting Forest Supervisor
United Rock Products	Russ Caruso	Vice President/ General Manager
Vulcan Materials Company	Sid Rodriguez	Raw Materials Coordinator HMA - Operations Western Division - Irwindale
Waste Management	Brent Anderson	District Manager
The Los Angeles and San Gabriel Watershed Council	Drew Ready	Program Manager/ Watershed Coordinator

SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN TASK FORCE MEETING # 1 ATTENDEES

Agency/Organization	Name
Arroyo Seco Foundation	Tim Brick
Board of Supervisors Office	K. Leibrich
California Department of Fish and Game	Kelly Schmoker
California Department of Fish and Game	Sarah Rains
California Native Plant Society San Gabriel Mountains Chapter	Gabi McLean
California Regional Water Quality Control Board - Los Angeles Region	Valerie Carillo
City of Burbank	Sean Corrigan
City of Los Angeles	Fred Burnett
City of Pasadena	Dan Rix
City of San Dimas	Krishna Patel
City of San Dimas	Lisa Monreal
City of Santa Clarita	Kerry Breyer
City of Sierra Madre	Bruce Inman
City of Sierra Madre	Chris Cimino
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health	Cindy Chen
Friends of Hahamonga	Mary Barrie
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	Susan Avila Suarez
Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster	Carol Williams
Pasadena Audubon	Laura Garrett
Pasadena Audubon	Mickey Long
Public and CA Native Plant Society/LA County Oak Task	Rebecca Latta
Public and CA Native Plants Society	Barbara Eistenstein
Public	Caroline Brown
Public	Tim Martinez
Public	Cam Stone
Public	Carole Seurlock
Public	Glen Owens
Public	Emily Green
Raymond Basin Management Board	Tony Zampiello
Raymond Basin Management Board	Steve Johnson
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County	Bob Asgian
Sierra Club Angeles Chapter - Pasadena Group	Dave Czamanske
Sierra Club Angeles Chapter	Joan Licari
The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy	Luz Torres
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Daniel P. Swenson
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Ned Araujo
U.S. Forest Service	Sonja Bergdahl
U.S. Forest Service	Lisa Northrop
United Rock Products	Dave Huss
Vulcan Materials Company	Charles St. John

Agency/Organization	Name
Vulcan Materials Company	Gary Goellner
Watershed Conservation Authority	Rob Romanek
Watershed Conservation Authority	Jane Beesly
Weston Solutions	Michael Drennan